(b) whether it is a fact that developed countries have taken a tough posture regarding the grant of concession to developing countries on SPS, market access, special and differential treatment etc; and

(c) if so, the stand proposed to be taken by India at the Summit to make it a success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) The next WTO Ministerial Conference is scheduled to be held in Cancun, Mexico from 10-14 September 2003.

(b) and (c) In accordance with the mandate provided in the Doha Ministerial Declaration, negotiations on various issues included in the Doha Work Programme are taking place in the relevant WTO negotiation/regular bodies. In respect of most of the issues covered by the Doha Work Programme the progress has been uneven. In particular, the deadlines given by the Ministers on three issues of importance to the developing countries, namely, TRIPS and Public Health; Special and Differential Treatment; and the Implementation-related issues and concerns could not be adhered to. India and other developing countries have strongly voiced their concerns in the WTO on the slow progress of the negotiations in these areas.

Besides the above-mentioned issues of concern/interest to developing countries, negotiations on market access for agricultural products, non-agricultural products and services are also taking place in the respective WTO Negotiating Bodies. India has been actively participating in these negotiations and putting forward its views on the various issues covered by these negotiations. India and other developing countries have strongly emphasised on the need for providing adequate Special and Differential treatment in these negotiations for the developing countries. At Cancun, India would continue to call upon the WTO Members to fully preserve the development focus of the Doha mandate in the ongoing negotiations.

Increasing demand of coffee in Japan

3119. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for coffee in Japan has hit a new high with imports of coffee touching 4,40,000 tonnes of Green, Roasted, Instant and concentrate varieties;

(b) whether Japan is the world's third largest coffee importing country after US and Germany;

(c) whether India has stepped up its coffee promotion efforts in Japan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir.

(c) and (d) As one of the fastest growing markets for coffee and also considering the potential to market high quality arabica and robusta coffee, the Govt. of India has identified Japan as an important target market for coffee exports.

For boosting exports of coffee in overseas markets including Japan, the Coffee Board has been undertaking various external promotional activities which include :-

- participation in selected International Exhibitions and Trade fairs by exhibiting exportable grades of raw coffee, Indian/instant coffee, charts, blow-ups, serving liquid coffee made out of the Coffee from India to the visitors through our stalls in all these exhibitions;
- sponsoring trade delegations/inviting roasters' delegations from all target markets to India and organising buyer-seller meets between Indian exporters and overseas buyers in key markets;
- releasing advertisements on the excellence and selectivity of Indian Coffee in important coffee trade journals and magazines in potential markets for Indian coffee etc.
- Organising visit of a high level delegation of All Japan Coffee Association comprising leading coffee roastes/importers to the coffee growing regions of Karnataka. The feedback received from the delegation after their return from India is very encouraging.

Centre for International Commercial Association

3120. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India is not having Centre for International Commercial Association; and

(b) whether Government plan to make efforts with United Nations to sanction at least one such Centre in India in view of globalisation?